to allow Foreign Direct Investment upto 26% in Indian entities publishing newspapers and periodicals dealing in news and current affairs. It has also been decided to allow Indian editions of foreign scientific, technical and speciality magazines/periodicals/journals and foreign investment upto 74% in Indian entities publishing scientific, technical and speciality magazines/periodicals/ journals.

Ordinance to regulate the working of Cable TV Network

92. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have issued an ordinance to regulate the working of Cable Television Network in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to safeguard the interests of the cable viewers who have been threatened by the cable operators with a hefty hike in the cable charges with immediate effect?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Government has introduced the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2002 to enable mandating of an addressable system for viewing of pay channels through cable networks. The system when mandated, will allow the consumer to choose and pay for the channel(s) that he wishes to watch.

Adult-oriented advertisements on TV channels

93. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are many advertisements running on various TV channels that are adult-oriented and obscene for the Indian society;

(b) the action Government propose to take against TV channels that are showing such commercials; and